

第4話

SINCE
THIS LOVE
CAME TRUE,
I'D DECIDED
TO GET
STRONGER.

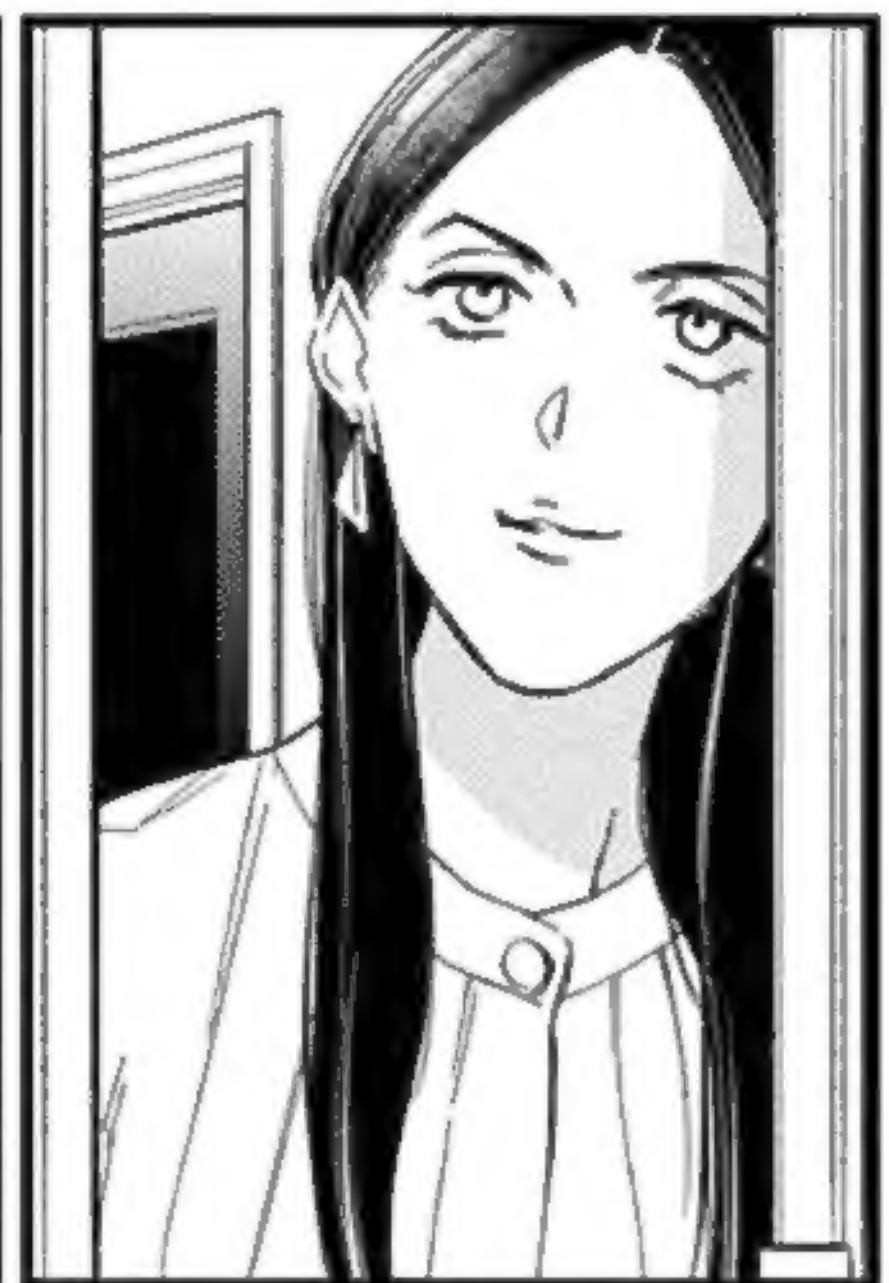
I'VE
DECIDED
IT'S OKAY
TO STAY BY
HIS SIDE.



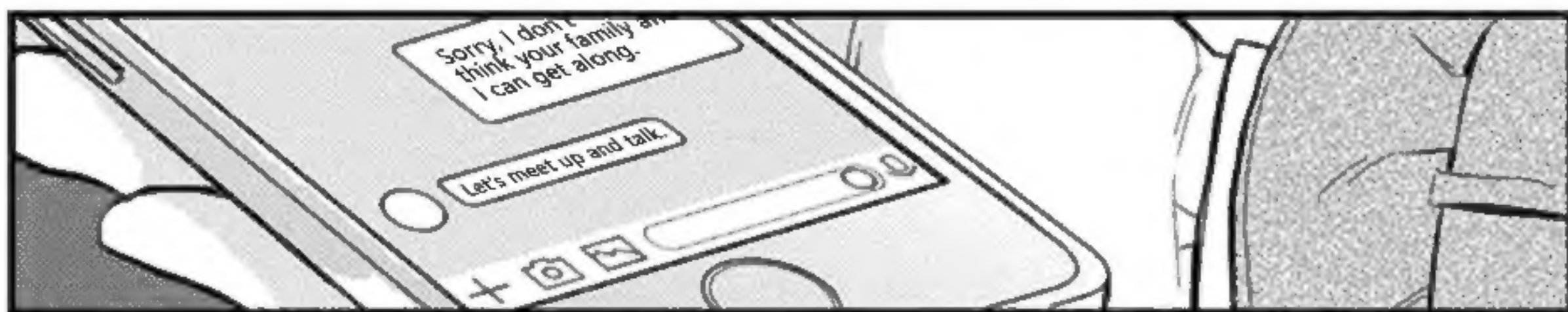
SMOKING ROOM

THE GUY
WHO STOLE
MY HEART. HIS
EVERYDAY
HAPPINESS
IS NOW MY
HAPPINESS.















I
DON'T
CARE AT
ALL.

ANYONE
WOULD WANT
TO BE WITH
SOMEONE
THEIR FAMILY
HAS GIVEN
THEIR BLES-
SING TO.

IT
CAN'T BE
HELPED.

WHAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
IS IMPOS-
SIBLE.



ARE YOU
OKAY WITH
THAT?



DID YOU
THINK I WAS
GOING TO
CUT YOU
OFF?



... IF
THAT'S
WHAT YOU
WANT.

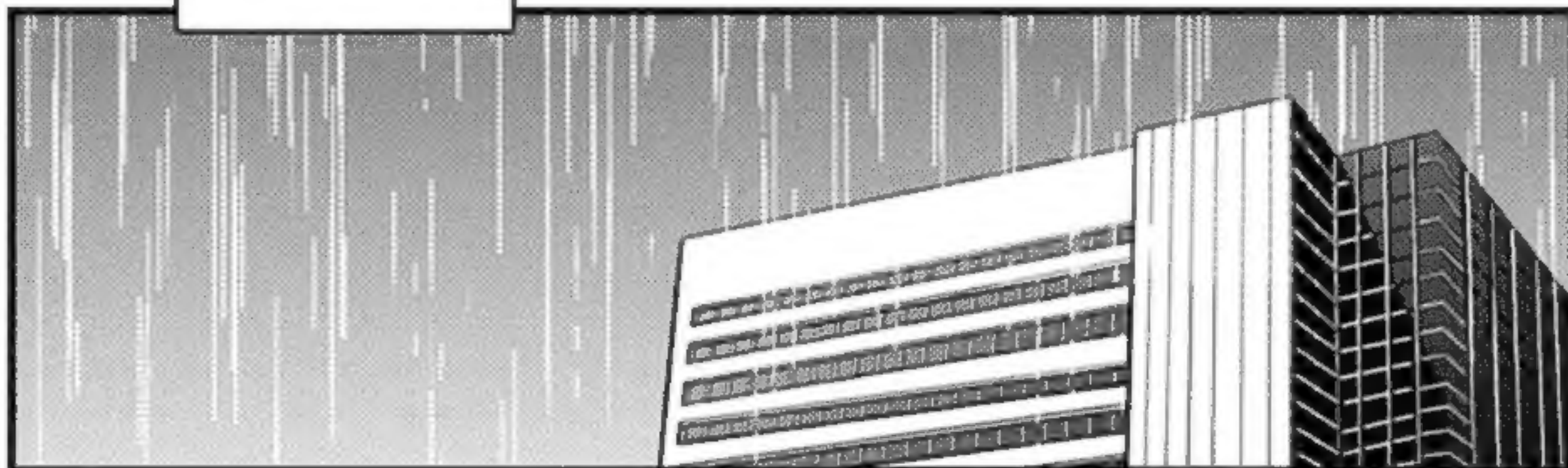


... DO
WHATEVER
YOU WANT.

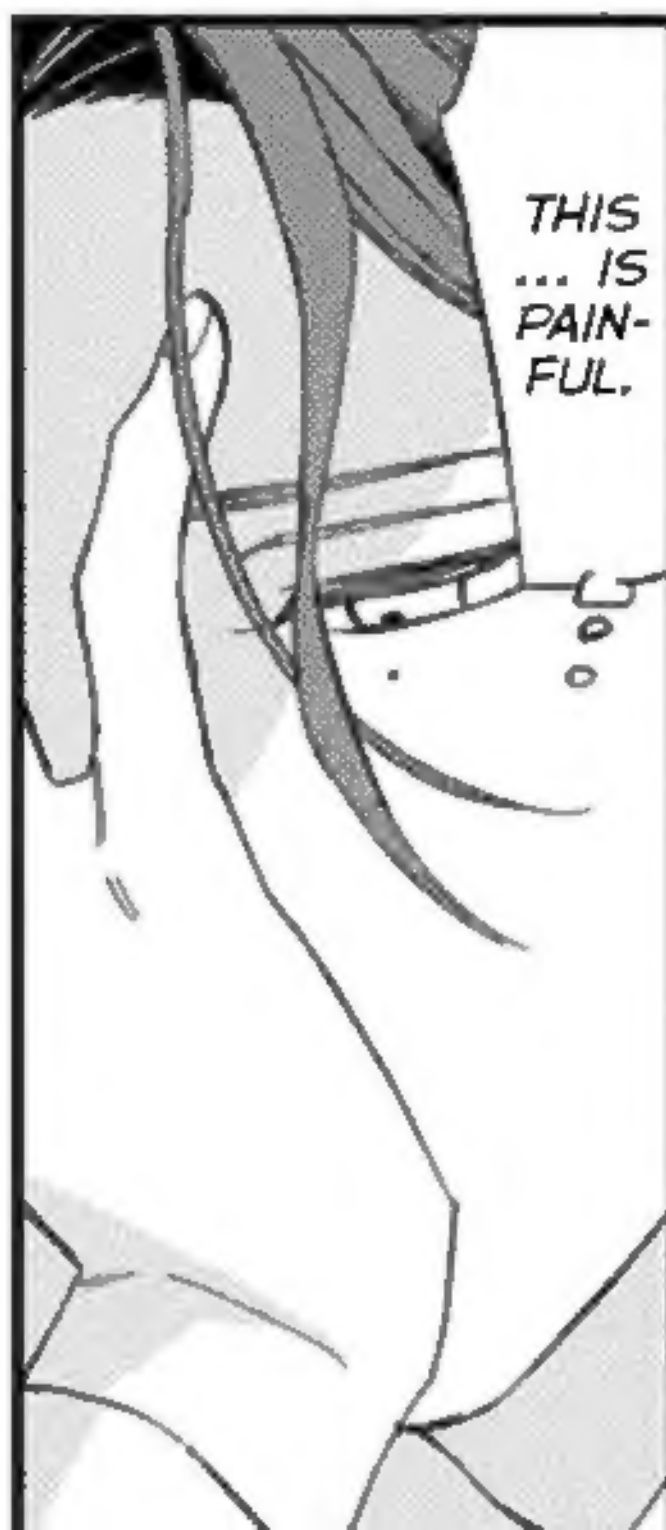
THUD



KIYOTAKE
DOESN'T
UNDER-
STAND.



THIS
... IS
PAIN-
FUL.



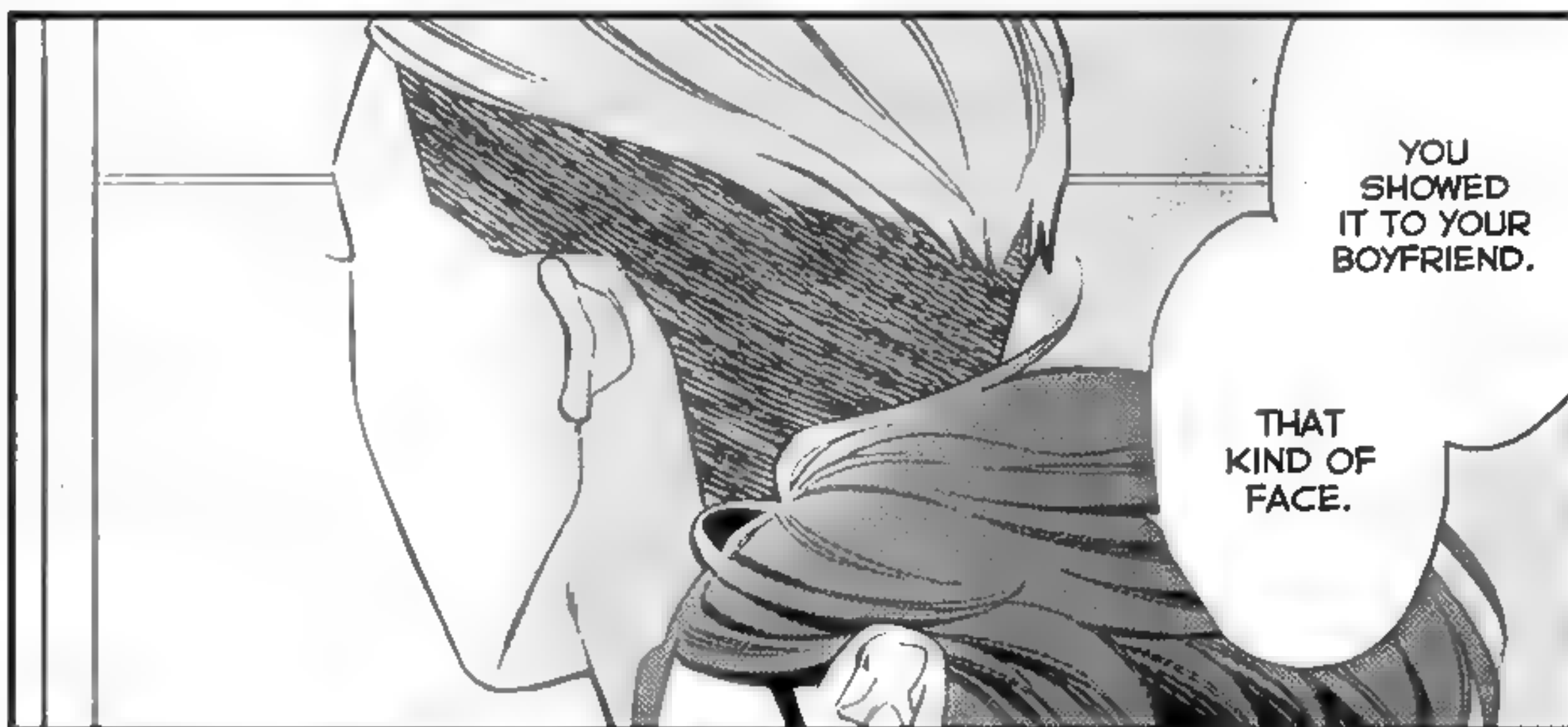
WHAT
WOULD
BECOME
OF AN
ADULT MAN
CLINGING TO
ANOTHER?

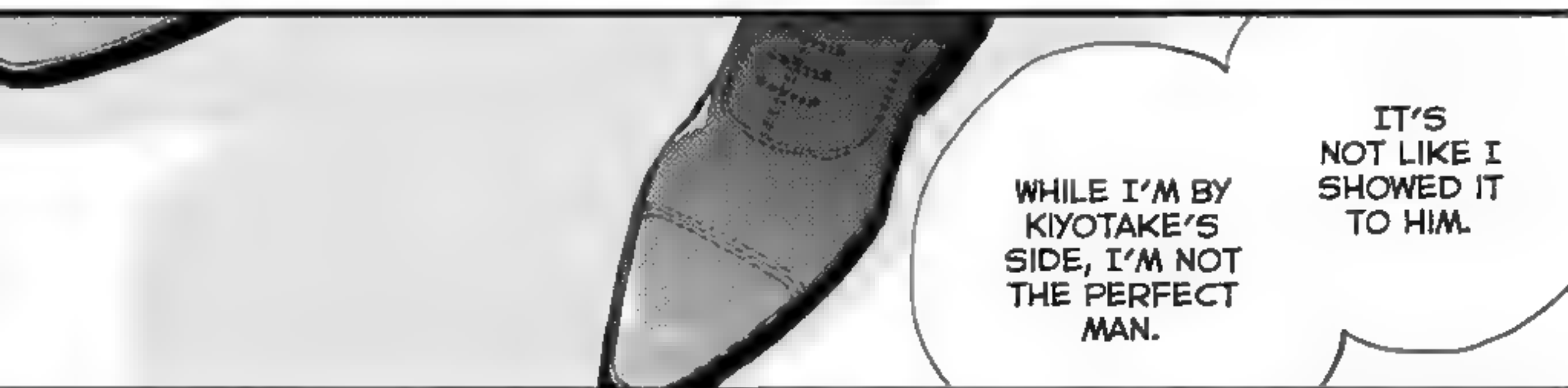
EVEN I
WOULDN'T
DATE THAT
KIND OF
BOTHER-
SOME GUY.











WHILE I'M BY
KIYOTAKE'S
SIDE, I'M NOT
THE PERFECT
MAN.

IT'S
NOT LIKE I
SHOWED IT
TO HIM.



WHY ISN'T
THAT GOOD
ENOUGH?

FROM MY
HEAD TO
MY TOES,
MY OUTFIT
IS TIDY,

I
WORK
SHITTY
OVER-
TIME,

I PRETEND
TO ACT NICE
AROUND
PEOPLE
I DON'T
CARE
ABOUT,

I GO TO
DRINKING
PARTIES
THAT
AREN'T
FUN,

AND
IN ORDER
TO BECOME
SUCCESSFUL I
DESPERATELY
WORK HARD.



... I
THINK THIS
UDOU-SAN
IS BETTER.



THE WAY
THAT YOU'RE
STRAIGHT-
FORWARD.
IT'S VERY
SIMILAR
TO HIM.



I QUITE
LIKE YOU.

Eh?



LET'S GO
TO WORK,
KOUHAI.

AND THERE
WERE A LOT
OF PAINFUL
THINGS.

I WAS
ALWAYS
ANXIOUS,

WE STARTED
GOING OUT 4
YEARS AGO.

SINCE
MIDDLE
SCHOOL,
IT WAS A
ONE-SIDED
LOVE FOR 8
YEARS.

EVEN IF
WE WERE TO
BREAK UP.

BUT I DIDN'T
THINK ABOUT
ANYTHING
BESIDES
KIYOTAKE.



DO
YOU WANT
ANYTHING
TO DRINK?

A
BLENDED
COFFEE.



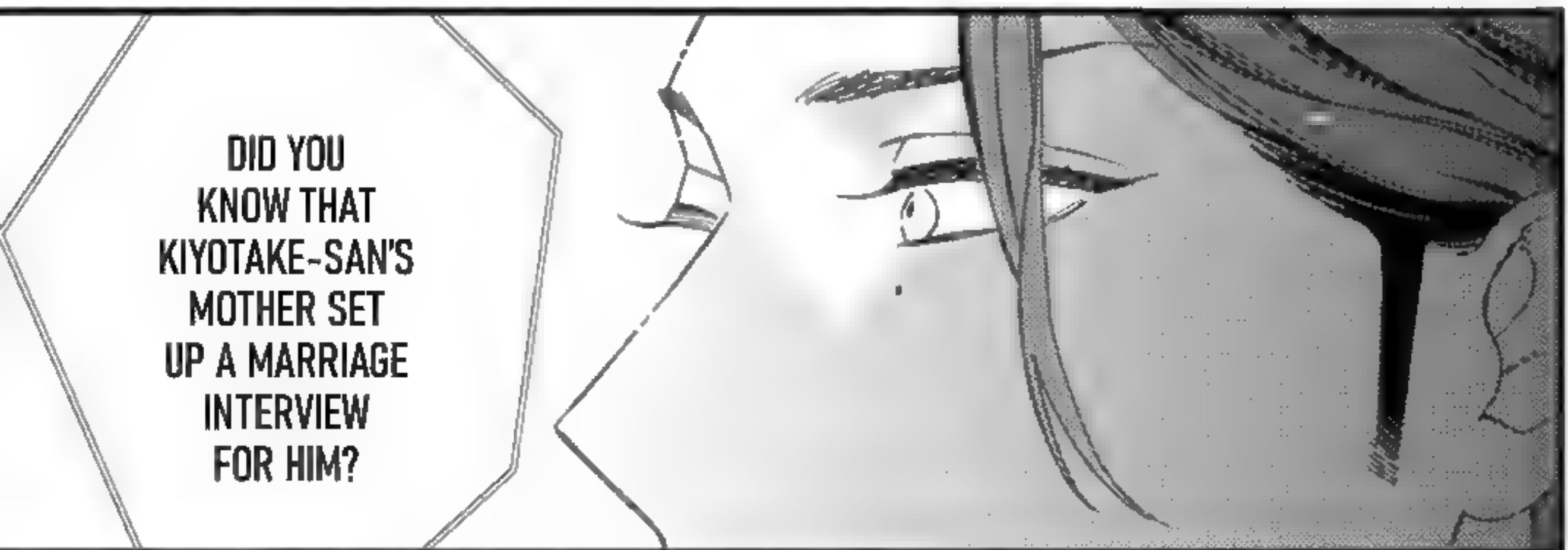
Nh



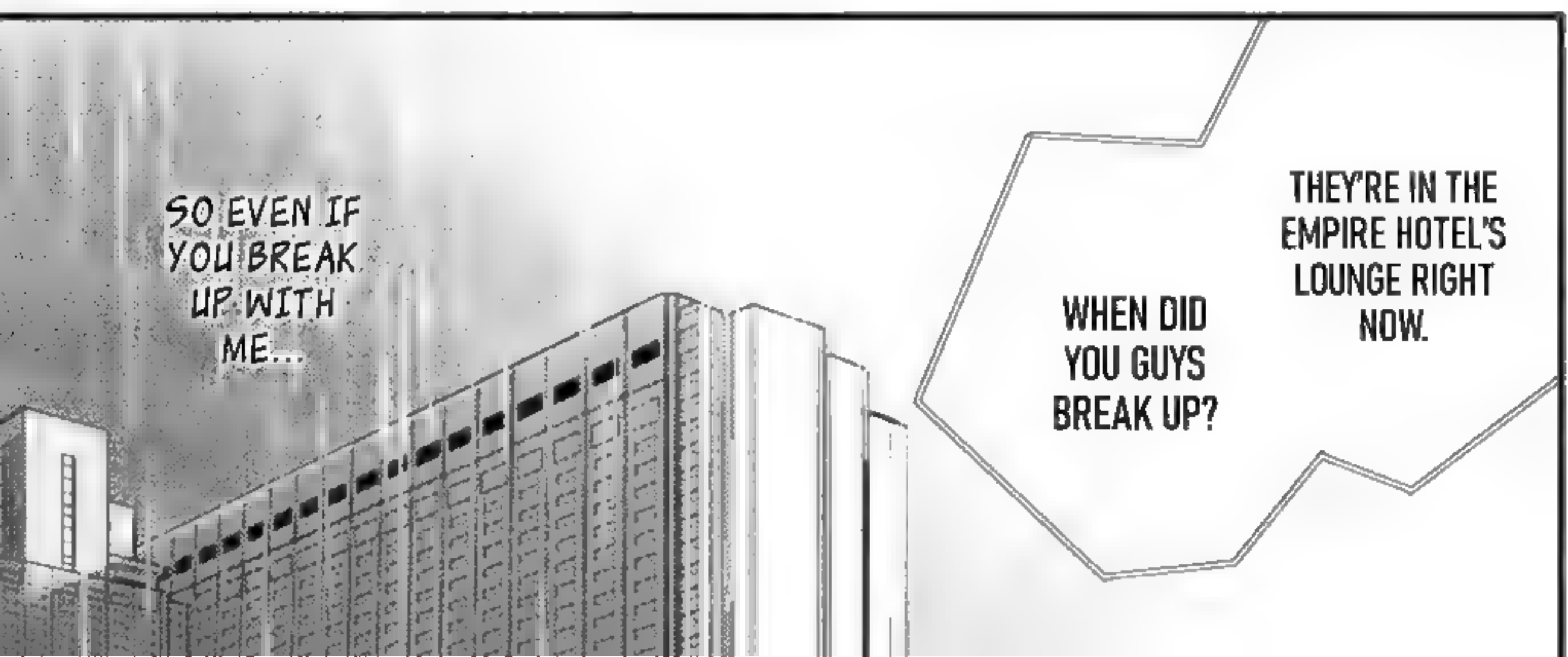
WHAT
...?

THERE'S NO
TIME FOR
THAT.

RYUUTA?
I TOLD YOU
NOT TO CALL
ME IN THE
MIDDLE OF
WORK.



DID YOU
KNOW THAT
KIYOTAKE-SAN'S
MOTHER SET
UP A MARRIAGE
INTERVIEW
FOR HIM?



SO EVEN IF
YOU BREAK
UP WITH
ME...

WHEN DID
YOU GUYS
BREAK UP?

THEY'RE IN THE
EMPIRE HOTEL'S
LOUNGE RIGHT
NOW.







**YOU
HAVE NO
IDEA HOW
MUCH I'VE
HAD TO
ENDURE.**

**DO
YOU KNOW
HOW I FELT
PROTECTING
THIS LOVE
...?**



**THE
SAME
GOES
FOR
ME!**



WHA-



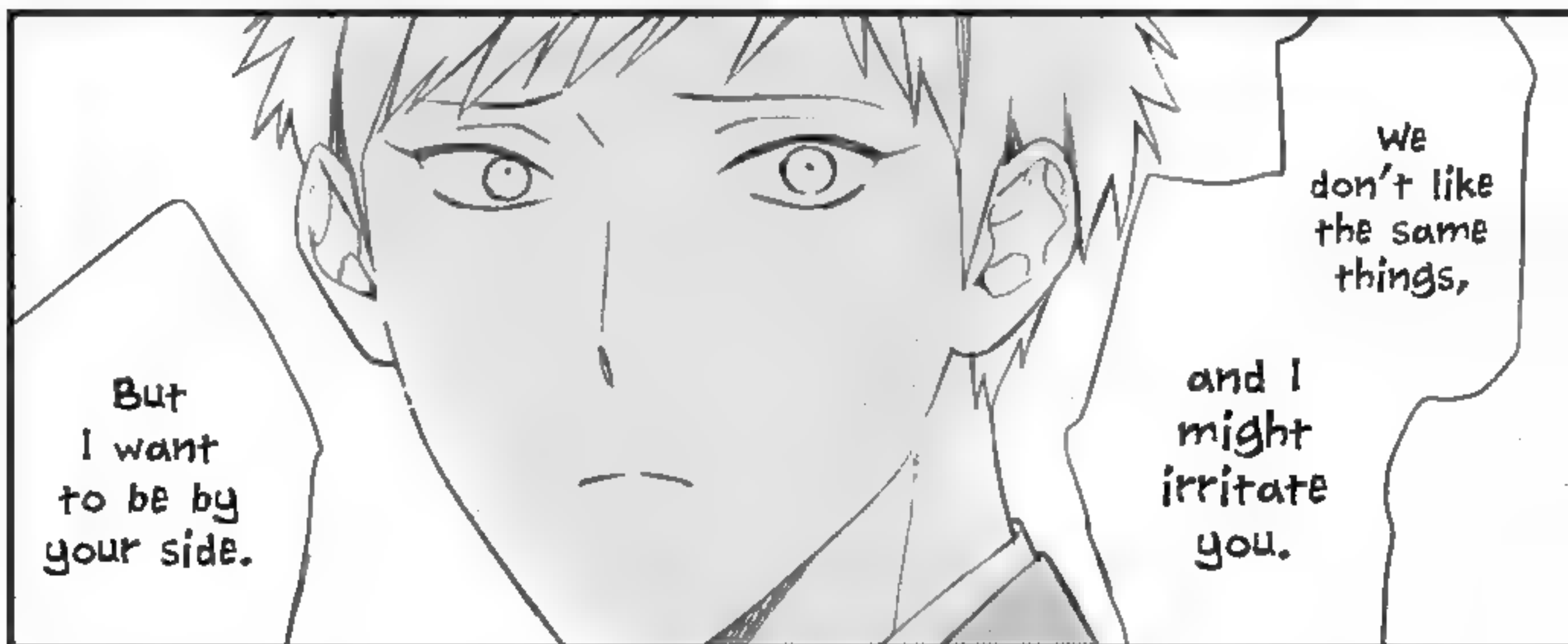
**YOU
HAVE THE
NERVE TO
SAY THAT
AFTER DOING
WHATEVER
YOU PLEA-
SED.**

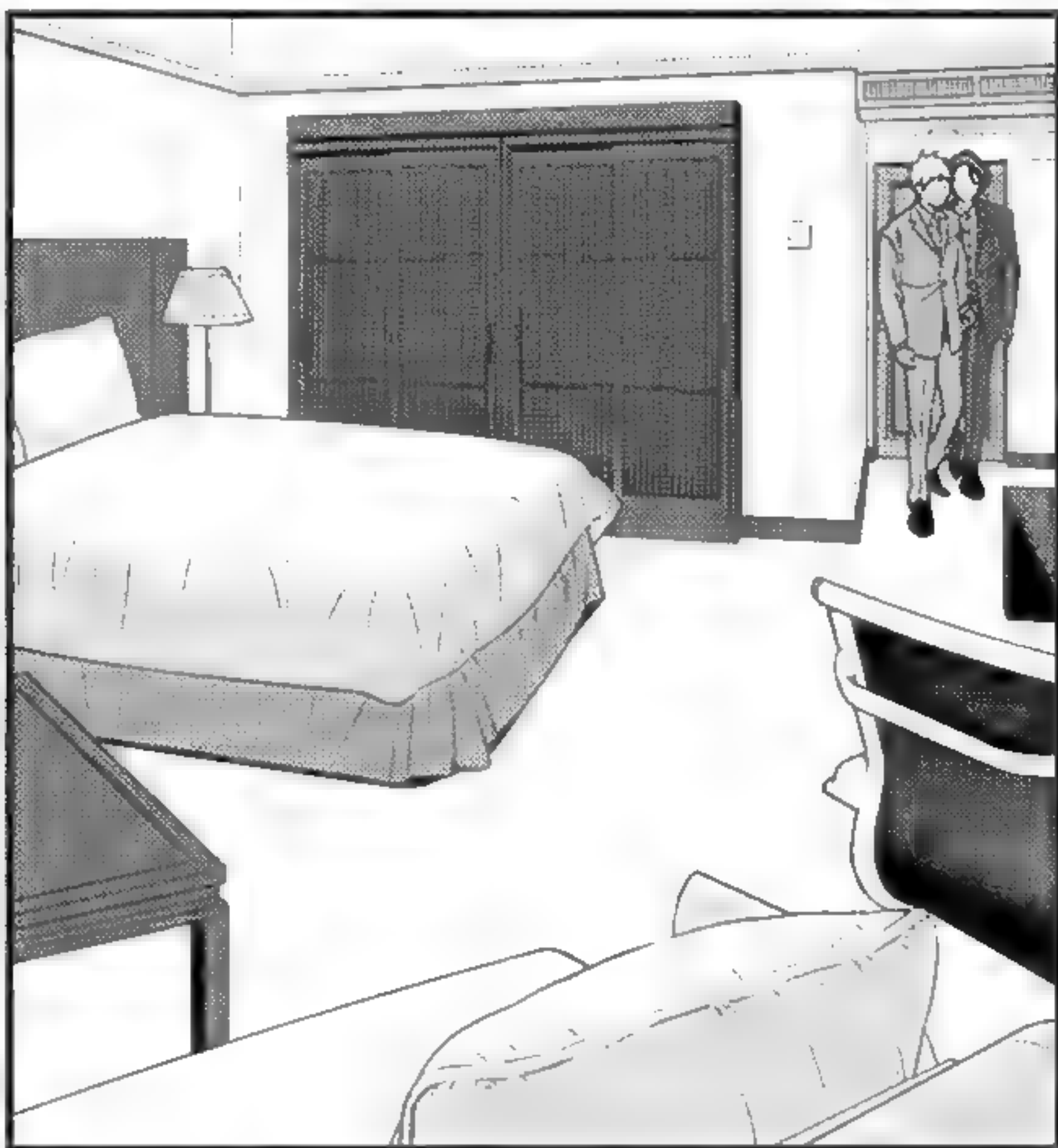
**YOU'RE SO
SELFISH!**

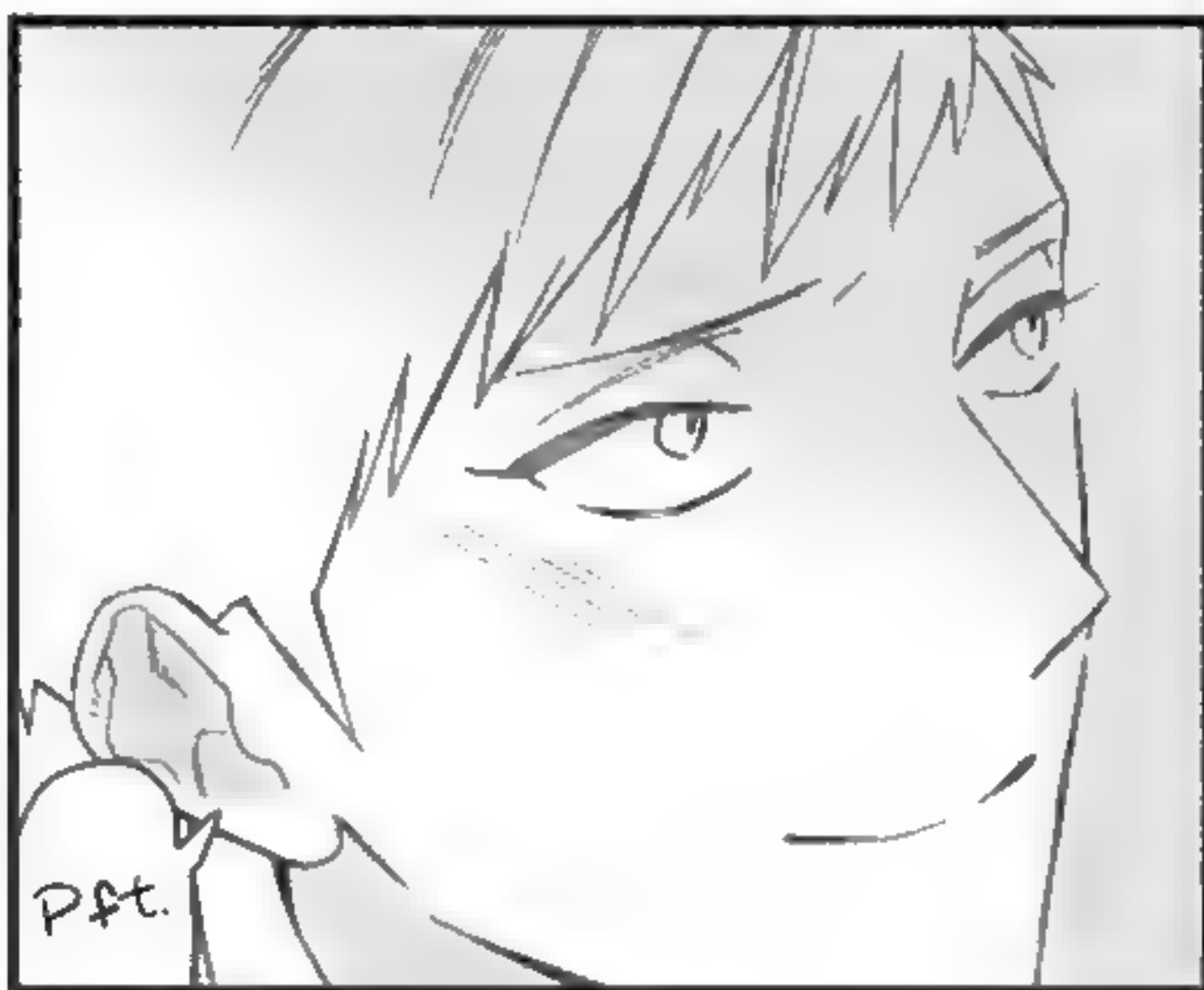








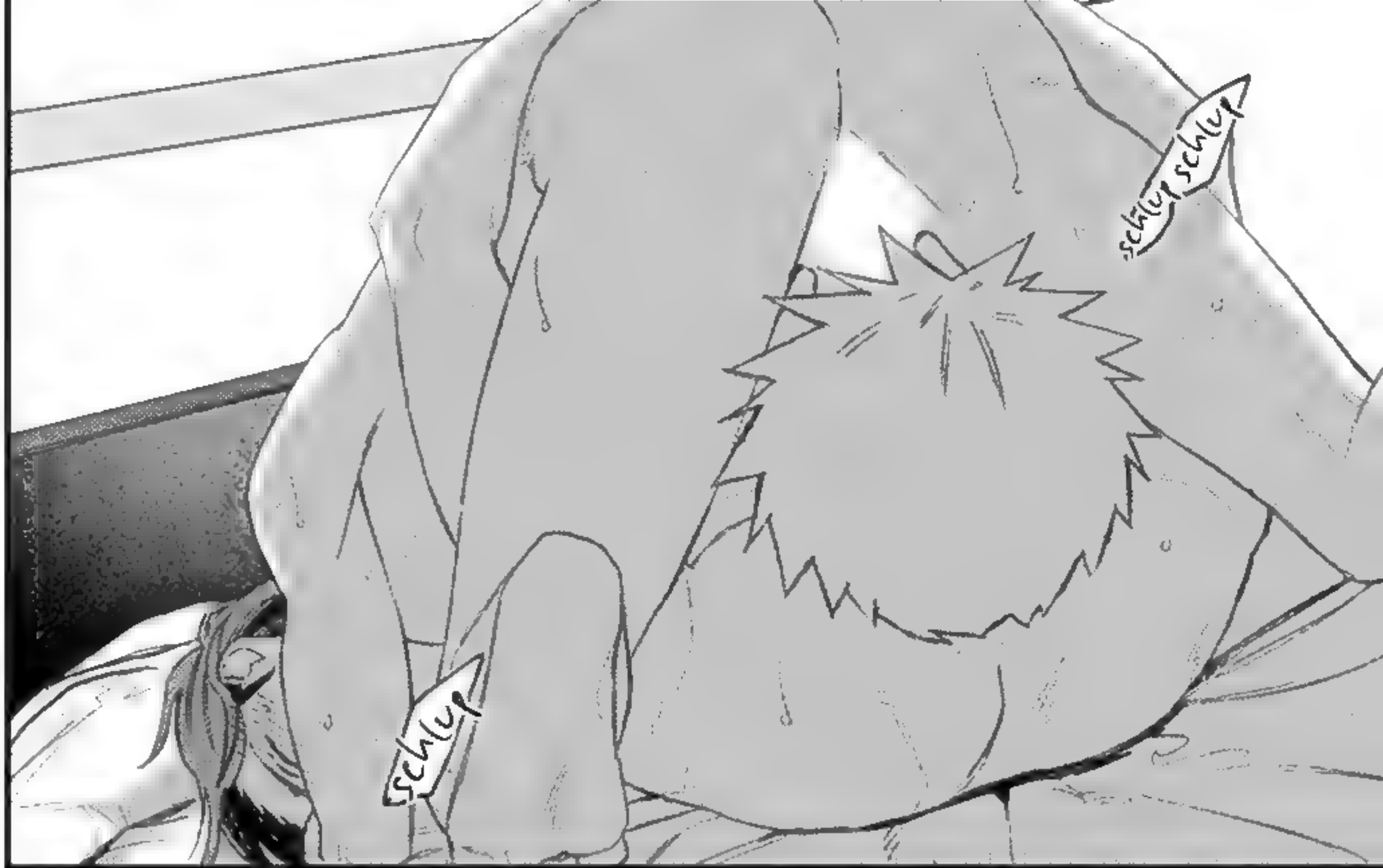


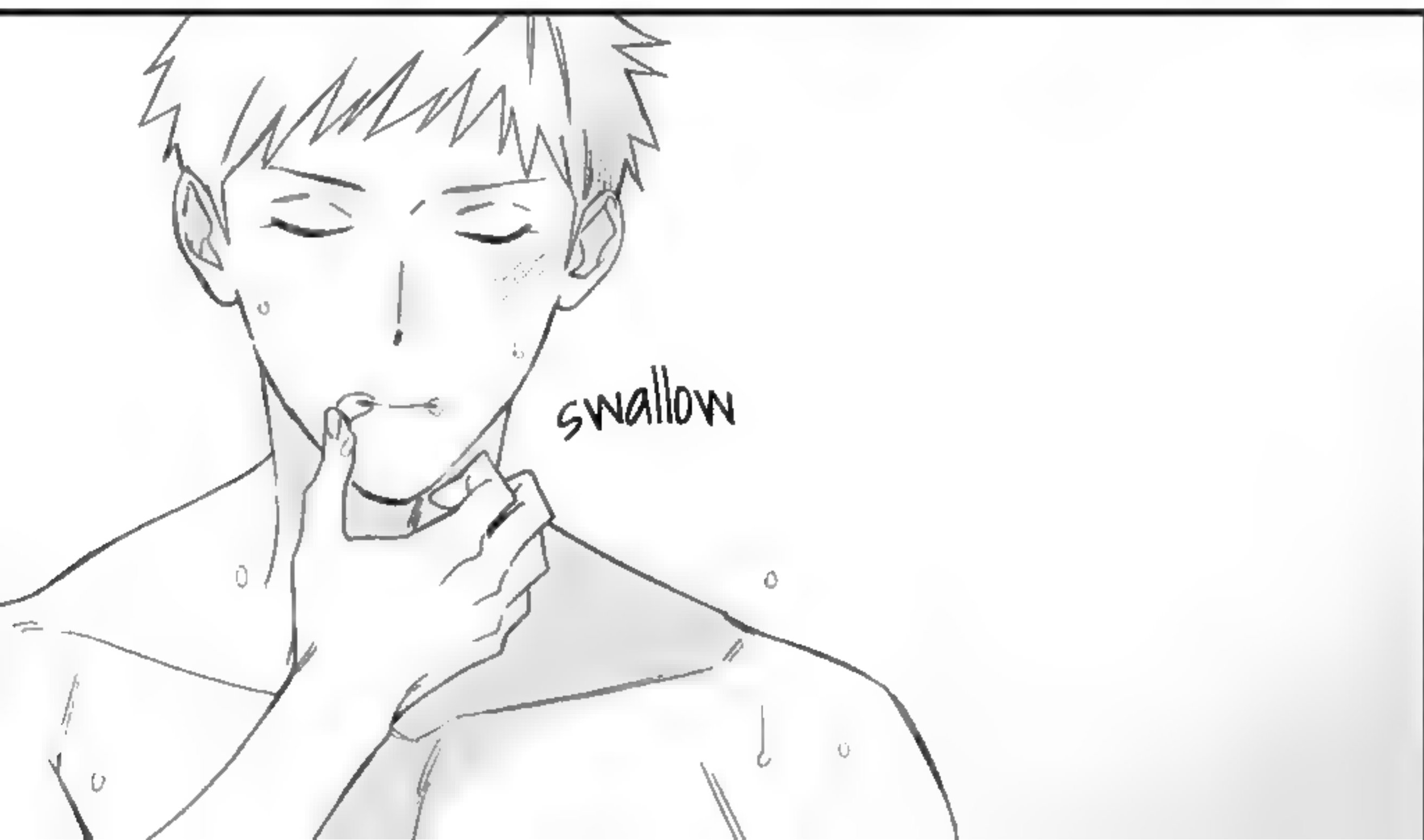
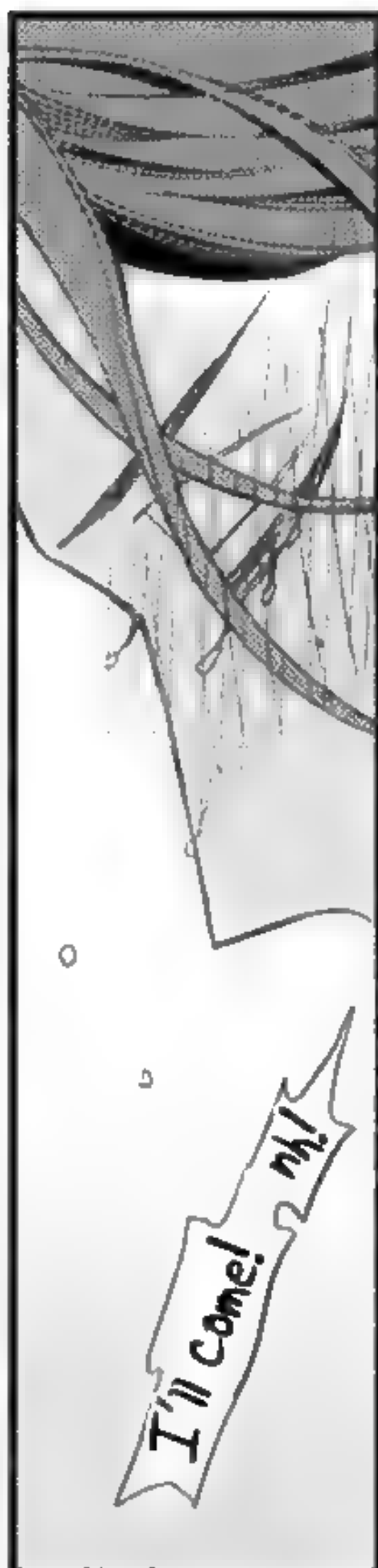




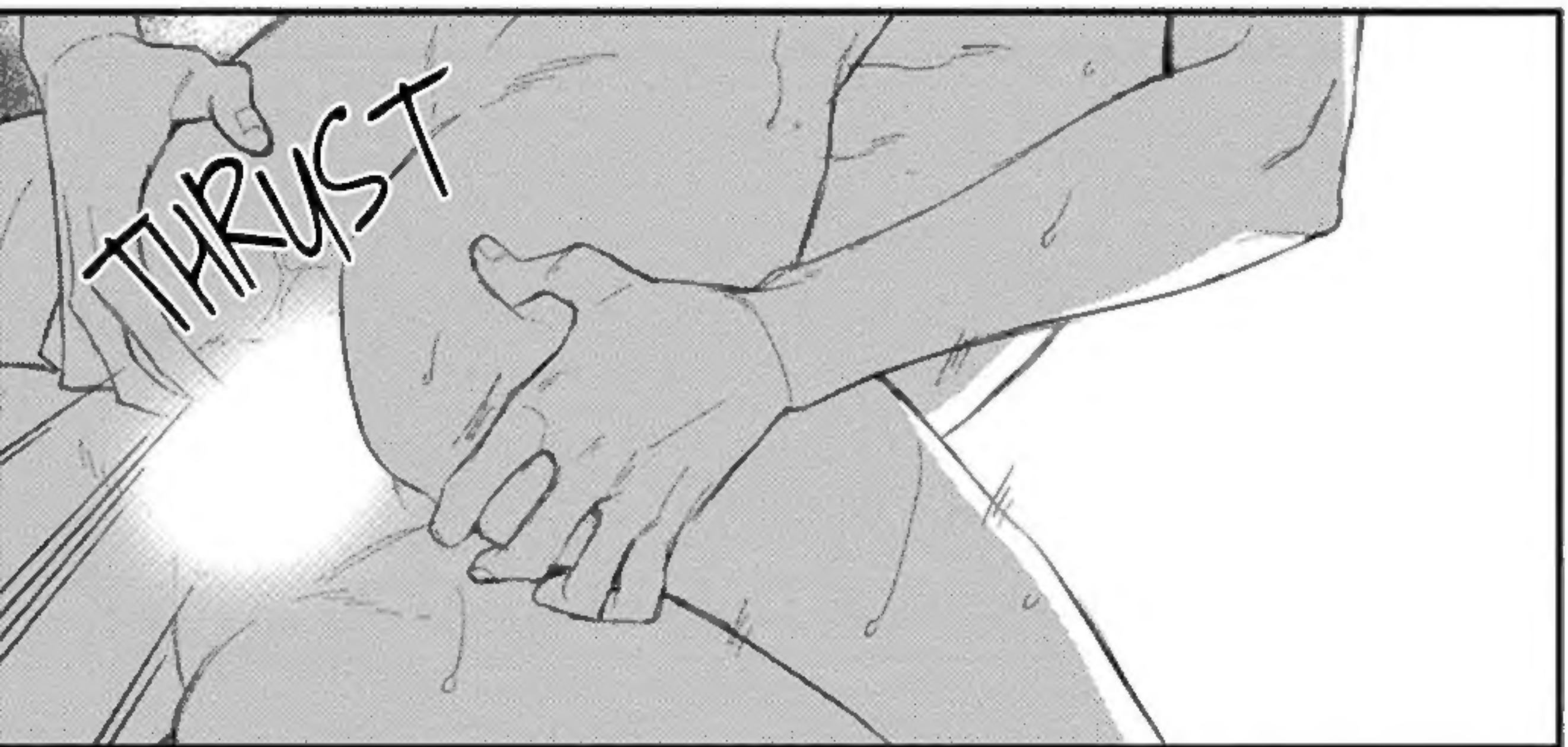


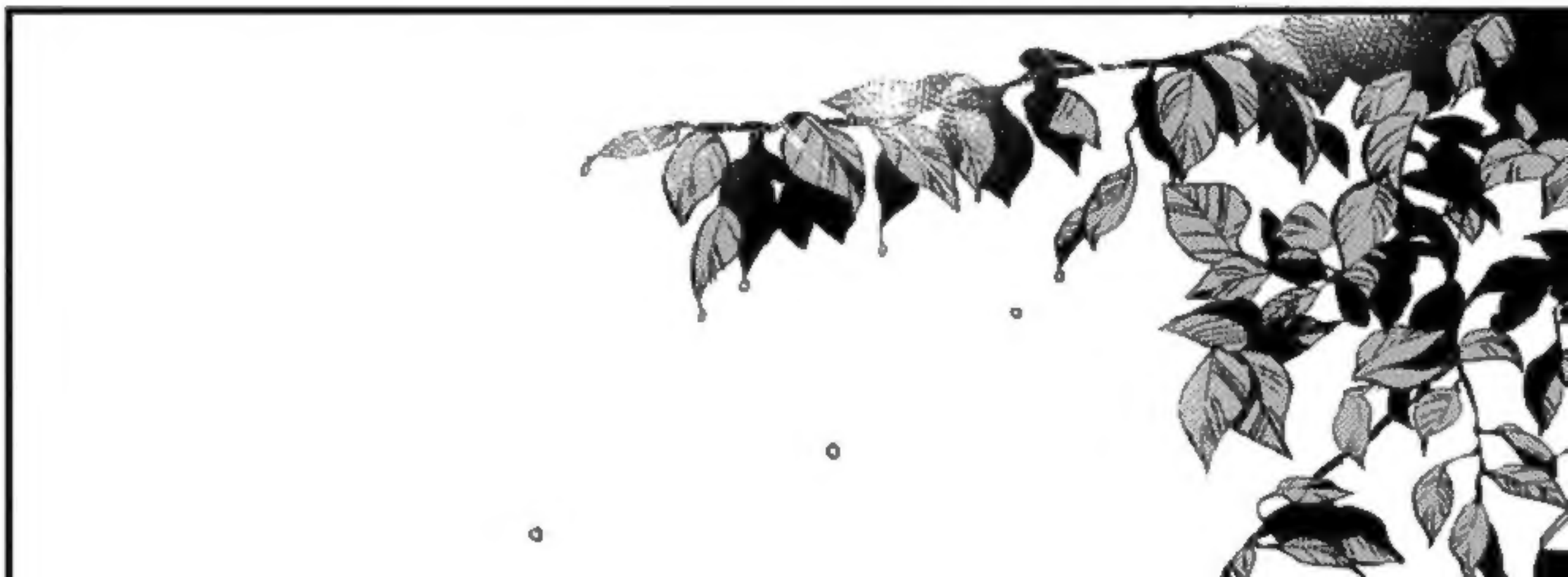














...AND NO
MATTER WHAT
HAPPENS
FROM HERE
ON OUT WE
WILL BE TO-
GETHER.

...I
TALKED
TO MY
MOTHER,

ABOUT
US GOING
OUT.



SURPR-
ISED?

NO.

I'M
RELIEVED
THAT IT WAS
A MORE MILD
REACTION
THAN I
THOUGHT.



WHAT
DID SHE
SAY?

THAT
SHE
UNDER-
STANDS.

THAT'S
ALL.

BUT I TOOK A
STEP FORWARD
TO TAKE ON
EVERYTHING.

I DIDN'T
EVEN GET
NEAR MY
IDEALS,

I SAID
GOODBYE
TO THE ME OF
YESTERDAY.



SINCE
THE RAIN
STOPPED,
SHALL WE
WALK BACK
...?

YEAH,

LET'S
GO BUY
BREAKFAST
OR SOME-
THING.

FROM NOW
ON, LET'S
ALWAYS
RETURN TO
THE SAME
APART-
MENT.